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ABSTRACT

An electrical static discharge (ESD) protection circuit that protects a modem or electronic equipment employing the modem from lockup or malfunction caused by ESD at the secondary winding of a modem transformer as ESD passes from an RJ-11 interface to the transformer. The ESD protection circuit comprises two zener diodes to detect ESD passing through the secondary winding, wherein a ground leg is coupled to a chassis ground and to a ground plane of a PC board via a low impedance connection to the at least one coupling for grounding one side of the zener diodes to divert the detected ESD to the chassis ground.